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C l a i m s

1. A developer unit with a toner supply and a toner application device (23), wherein toner is supplied to a developer device (30) by means of the toner application device (23), and wherein the developer device (30) can be brought into planar contact with an OPC (10),

characterized in that

the developer device (30) has a developer tape (34) which is applied in the contact area to sections on the surface of the OPC (10).

2. The developer unit in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that

the developer tape (34) is embodied as an endlessly revolving tape, which revolves around at least two deflection rollers (31, 32), and

the contact area with the OPC (10) is formed in the space between the deflection rollers (31, 32).

3. The developer unit in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that

at least one of the deflection rollers (31, 32) is placed against the OPC (10) with the developer tape (34) placed between them.

4. The developer unit in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that

the contact area is arranged at a distance from both deflection rollers (31, 32).

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5. The developer unit in accordance with one of claims 1 to 4,

characterized in that

a charging arrangement (33) is assigned to the contact area, by means of which an electrical charge can be applied to the toner.

6. The developer unit in accordance with claim 5, characterized in that

the charging device (33) can be constituted by at least one corona device.

7. The developer unit in accordance with claim 5, characterized in that

the charging device (33) is formed by at least one bias roller, at which the developer tape (34) rolls off on the side facing away from the OPC (10).

8. The developer unit in accordance with one of claims 1 to 7,

characterized in that

a tape tensioning device is assigned to the developer tape (34).

9. The developer unit in accordance with claim 8, characterized in that

a control unit is assigned to the tape tensioning device which adjusts the tape tensioning device as a function of a predeterminable set point.

10. The developer unit in accordance with one of

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claims 1 to 9,

characterized in that

on its surface receiving the toner, the developer tape (34) has a surface roughness in the range of < 0.7 times of the d_{50vol} value of the toner used, in particular between 5 and 8 μm .

11. The developer unit in accordance with one of claims 2 to 10,

characterized in that

a metering roller (24) rolls off the coated surface of the developer tape (34) downstream of the application device (23) and upstream of the contact area in the transport direction.

12. The developer unit in accordance with claim 11,

characterized in that

the metering roller (24) rests against one of the deflection rollers (31, 32) with the developer tape (34) placed between them.

13. The developer unit in accordance with one of claims 2 to 12,

characterized in that

the toner application device (23) is embodied as an application roller, which rolls off on one of the deflection rollers (31, 32) with the developer tape (34) placed between them.